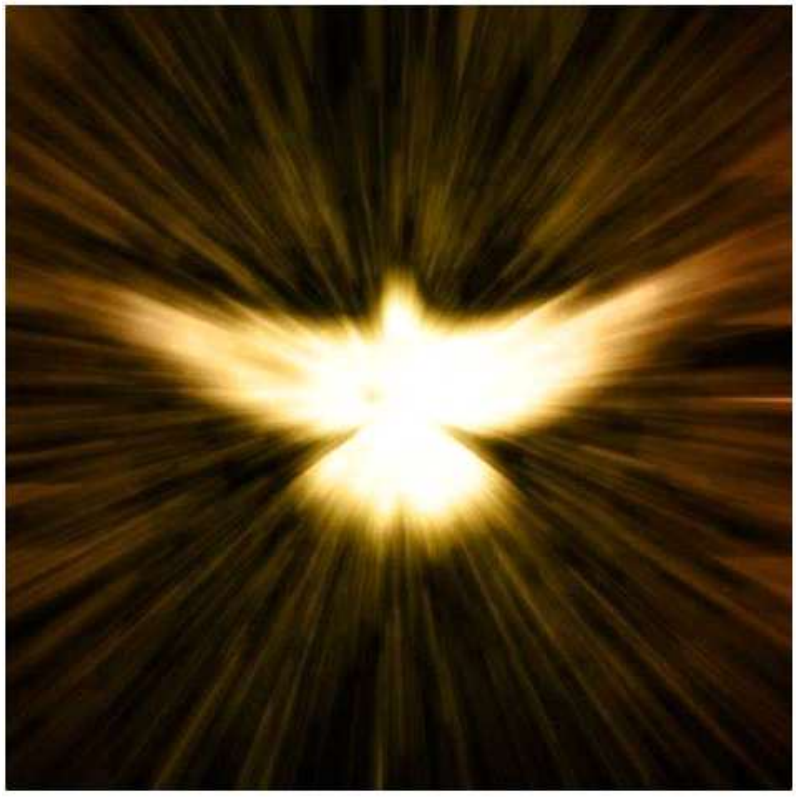
Answering Questions and Talks on The Holy Spirit

By Harris Kakoulides



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Chapter 01 Does the Holy Spirit always indwell the believers?

Does the Holy Spirit always indwell the believers?

Yes

“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-–”— John 14:16 (NKJV)

The New Covenant or Testament is unlike the Old Testament when the Holy Spirit left the believers.

Samson

“And she said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" So he awoke from his sleep, and said, "I will go out as before, at other times, and shake myself free!" But he did not know that the Lord had departed from him.” Judg 16:20 (NKJV)

Saul

“But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the Lord troubled him.” 1Samaul 16:14 (NKJV)

David feared the Departure of the Spirit from him

“Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.” Ps 51:11 (NKJV)

There are times it might feel like he has departed but be sure he is still there , if you grieve him , or queched him that could be the reason but he hasn't left.

“And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.— Eph 4:30 (NKJV)

“Do not quench the Spirit.”1Ths 5:19 (NKJV)

You still remain his temple .

“Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” 1 Corinthians 3:16 (NKJV)

But that doesn't mean he won't chantes you , for his discipline is strong and sometimes it could lead to physical death.

“If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.” 1 Corinthians

3:17 (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 11 (NKJV)[29] For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.[30] For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.

“Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things.— Acts 5:5 (NKJV)

Acts 5 (NKJV)[9] Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."[10] Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband.

Holy Spirit will never leave us and is our down payment for something more grand the indwelling of the Father and Son in the Believers.

2 Corinthians 5:5 LEB Now the one who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the down payment, the Spirit.

Ephesians 1 (NKJV)[13] In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,[14] who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

“Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.”John 14:23 (NKJV)

“To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:”— Colossians 1:27 (KJV)

For those who state that but Christ already dwells in us , he does throu the Holy Spirit but his physical presence does not , hope in "Hope of glory" implies it hasn't happened yet and we are waiting for it and so does the scripture teach us the meaning of hope.

Romans 8 (NKJV)[24] For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees?[25] But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

The Christain is to have the Three in one God dwelling in them Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Chapter 02 Jesus had the Holy Spirit before his Baptism

In our last study about the Holy Spirit before Pentecost I said Jesus had the Holy Spirit before his Baptism. The only difference is now it is revealed who has the Holy Spirit and in a sense is more stronger to work in his life for the purpose of ministry.

We know that Jesus birth was by the Holy Spirit.

Luke 1:35
And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

Matthew 1:18
Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 1:20

But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

Remember as we read about Jesus birth. It was by the Holy Spirit indwelling of Mary.

We have to think and reason if the Holy Spirit dwelt in John the Baptist when he was in his mother womb, how much more will he be felt in the God-man Jesus in the womb of Mary.

Luke 1:15
For he (John) will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He (John) will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.

Luke 1:41
And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe (John) leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

But you might ask was Jesus's childhood a life lived by the spirit. And I would say yes. Look at this passage.

Luke 2:47
And all who heard Him (Jesus) were astonished at His understanding and answers.

Understanding or Knowledge or knowing. All true knowledge comes from the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:8
for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,

If we read in the verses ahead we find

Luke 2:52
And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

We are told that Jesus grew in wisdom and Grace compare this passage with what Isaiah states about the manifestations of the Holy Spirit which will be in the life of Jesus.

Isaiah 11:1-2
There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

Wisdom is be able to apply the knowledge one knows in one's life. Now notice this passage states Jesus growing with the spirit of wisdom and knowledge already in him when it states "And a Branch shall grow out of Jesse's roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding"

Now is wisdom a gift of the Spirit in a believer? Yes. Did Jesus possessed it? yes . Some say but he grew Into it and I would agree. How do you posses wisdom we grow into it by power of the Holy Spirit. Wisdom is application. Now lets go to the word Grace . He grew in favour in Luke 2:52 or He grew in Grace (unmerited favour) which the word favour could be translated to. Which is the Greek word Charis

Is Grace also given by the Holy Spirit ? And the answer is yes.

Zechariah 12:10
"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace…….

Did Jesus needed Grace being God? No but Yes in his humanity he needed Grace which was given to him to keep him from sinning and to produce the fruit of the Spirit in his life

Here are just a few hints that the Holy Spirit already had his abode in Jesus. The purpose for the Holy Spirit coming down on Jesus as a dove was to make it known to John who was the one that baptized by the Spirit.

John 1:29-34
The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' I did not know Him; but

that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

Before Jesus receive his baptism by John , John the Baptist was convicted of his unworthiness in comparison to Christ. So there must of been great amount of The Holy Spirit presence on Jesus.

Matthew 3:13-15
Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.
And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.

As a human Jesus had to learn, which he did growing up but also after he was grown by going through experiences.

Hebrews 5:8
though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

Which shows his humanity was very much human. How he was limited in his knowledge.

Mark 13:32
"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

But yet as God he knows all.

John 16:30
Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God."

John 21:17
He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep.

But as human his knowledge was limited. The kenosis (Incarnation of Jesus) is a very interesting topic to dwell upon. How Jesus could be both God and man? But is one that could leave us humble and amazed at the love God, that became clay of dirt to die for you and me. But as a human the same resources he depended on which was prayer , the Holy Spirit in his life before and after his baptism and Study of the word , fasting are the same resources we have in our possession aswell if we desire to use them.

Chapter 03 Why the Holy Spirit called the Holy Spirit

Why is the Holy Spirit called the holy spirit?

The word Holy means set apart for a purpose or cause. The word Spirit speaks of his nature that is not material or limit by human's frailty. He is truely divine but he serves a purpose in the lives of those who believe in Jesus and even in the lives of the non-believers. He was the creator along with the Father and the Son.

To name just a few things he is separated for

Holy Spirit is separated as creator

"The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. — Gen 1:2 (NKJV)

“By His Spirit He adorned the heavens; His hand pierced the fleeing serpent.”— Job 26:13 (NKJV)

“The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.” — Job 33:4 (NKJV)

Holy Spirit is separated to struggle with us in conviction

“And the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." — Gen 6:3 (NKJV)

“"You stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.”Acts 7:51 (NKJV)

Holy Spirit is separated for the purpose to empower us for service

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."” Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

Exo 31 (NKJV)[3] And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,[4] to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze,[5] in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship.

Holy Spirit is separated to help us live godly

Gal 5 (NKJV)[22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,[23] gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Holy Spirit is separated for the purpose of teaching us the word.

1Jn 2 (NKJV)[20] But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.[27] But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

Chapter 04 The Works of the Spirit Before Pentecost

The Works of the Spirit Before Pentecost

In this Study we will see what the Holy Spirit had done and next study will see what he is doing now then what are we to expect of him in the future. The Holy Spirit was creator with the Father and the Son.

Holy Spirit

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

Psalms 33:6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

The word for breath in Psalms 33:6 in Hebrew is ruach pronounce (roo'-akh) which means breath, wind, spirit. Now for a quick reference we also see that the God the Son and the Father was also involved in creation .

Son

Hebrews 1:2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

The Father

Revelation 4:11 “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”

We also see the Holy Spirit wrestling, striving with man before the flood of Noah

Genesis 6:3 And the Lord said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”

He also strove with men all through the Old Testament according to Stephen. Which he did through the prophets.

Acts 7:51 “You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.

And when Israel was in the desert he also strove with them

Isaiah 63:10-11But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; So He turned Himself against them as an enemy, And He fought against them.Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying: “Where is He who brought them up out of the sea With the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit within them,

The Trinity appeared to Abraham, notice Abraham saw The Lord but who appears to him 3 men , and they speak as they where one.

Genesis 18:1-5 Then the Lord appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day.So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, and said, “My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts. After that you may pass by, inasmuch as you have come to your servant.” They said, “Do as you have said.”

Augustine 354- 430 AD in his book on the Trinity makes mention of this fact.

St Augustine on the Trinity Book 2 Chapter 10

(“ But under the oak at Mamre he saw three men, whom he invited, and hospitably received, and ministered to them as they feasted. Yet Scripture at the beginning of that narrative does not say, three men appeared to him, but, “The Lord appeared to him.” And then, setting forth in due order after what manner the Lord appeared to him, it has added the account of the three men, whom Abraham invites to his hospitality in the plural number, and afterwards speaks to them in the singular number as one; and as one He promises him a son by Sara, viz. the one whom the Scripture calls Lord, as in the beginning of the same narrative, “The Lord,” it says, “appeared to Abraham.” He invites them then, and washes their feet, and leads them forth at their departure, as though they were men; but he speaks as with the Lord God, whether when a son is promised to him, or when the destruction is shown to him that was impending over Sodom. “)

Then we see the Holy Spirit preparing people with the ability to work in the Tabernacle.

Exodus 31:1-5 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: “See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship.

We also see the Holy Spirit sending messages called prophecy by the prophets.

Acts 28:25 So when they did not agree among themselves, they departed after Paul had said one word: “The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers,

1 Peter 1:10-11 Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

The Holy Spirit sent Jesus and the Prophets. This following verse if read in it's context shows God being sent by God and the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 48:16 “Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; From the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord God and His Spirit Have sent Me.”

So let's look at it in it's context

Isaiah 48:12-17 “Listen to Me, O Jacob, And Israel, My called: I am He, I am the First, I am also the Last. Indeed My hand has laid the foundation of the earth, And My right hand has stretched out the heavens; When I call to them, They stand up together. “All of you, assemble yourselves, and hear! Who among them has declared these things? The Lord loves him; He shall do His pleasure on Babylon, And His arm shall be against the Chaldeans. I, even I, have spoken; Yes, I have called him, I have brought

him, and his way will prosper. “Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; From the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord God and His Spirit Have sent Me.” Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: “I am the Lord your God, Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go.

The Holy Spirit was involve in the birth of Christ

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 1:35 And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

The Holy Spirit led Jesus to the desert to be Tempted by the Devil

Matthew 4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Luke 4:1 Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

This was after he anointed Jesus at Jesus baptism even though Jesus already possessed a certain amount of the Holy Spirit before this will be seen in tommorow's Study.

Matthew 3:16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

Isaiah 11:1-2 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 42:1 “Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.

Isaiah 61:1 “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

When Christ cast out Demons he did so through the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 12:28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

In a other Gospel account the Holy Spirit is referred to as the figure of God

Luke 11:20 But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

The Holy Spirit help Jesus die on the Cross

Hebrews 9:14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

The Holy Spirit was involved among the Trinity In raising Jesus from the died.

Holy Spirit

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. Sonship Through the Spirit

Father

1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Jesus

John 2:19-21 Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” But He was speaking of the temple of His body.

So We can clearly understand What the Apostle Peter means when they say God raise Jesus from the dead for all three persons of the God-head rose Jesus from the dead.

Acts 2:24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

Acts 3:15 and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.

Acts 4:10 let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.

Chapter 05 Filling of the Holy Spirit to overcome Fear

One of the reason we as Christains are to seek the filling of the Holy Spirit is to be able to speak the Gospel without fear.

Acts 4 (NKJV)[29] Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,[30] by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus."[31] And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

When we lack the Holy Spirit filling in our lives we become fearful to speak the Gospel to people. Example before the day of Pentecost Peter was scared to confess Jesus. He denied of knowing him three times.

Mat 26 (NKJV)[69] Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came to him, saying, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee."[70] But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you are saying."[71] And when he had gone out to the gateway, another girl saw him and said to those who were there, "This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth."[72] But again he denied with an oath, "I do not know the Man!"[73] And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you."[74] Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" Immediately a rooster crowed.[75] And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly.

This is Peter before the filling of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost . Now let's see him with the filling.

Acts 4 (NKJV)[8] Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel:[9] If we this day are judged for a good deed done to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well,[10] let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.[11] This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.'[12] Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."[13] Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

A big difference the filling of the person of the Holy Spirit makes in us . This is why we have to seek his filling daily for courage . So we won't deny Jesus. In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit also gave courage to the saints of Old . Take for example Saul .

Before him becoming King he was fearful. Of becoming King .

1Sam 10 (NKJV)[21] When he (Samuel) had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was chosen. And Saul the son of Kish was chosen. But when they sought him, he could not be found.

[22] Therefore they inquired of the Lord further, "Has the man come here yet?" And the Lord answered, "There he is, hidden among the equipment."

Now when the Spirit of God came upon him he was different. He was not the same Saul.

1Sam 11 (NKJV)[4] So the messengers came to Gibeah of Saul and told the news in the hearing of the people. And all the people lifted up their voices and wept.[5] Now there was Saul, coming behind the herd from the field; and Saul said, "What troubles the people, that they weep?" And they told him the words of the men of Jabesh.[6] Then the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard this news, and his anger was greatly aroused.[7] So he took a yoke of oxen and cut them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the territory of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, "Whoever does not go out with Saul and Samuel to battle, so it shall be done to his oxen." And the fear of the Lord fell on the people, and they came out with one consent.

If we are scared to preach the Gospel to others when needed , it is because we need a filling or a refilling of the Holy Spirit. Not that the Holy Spirit leaves us as Christains .

John 14 (NKJV)[16] And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-–[17] the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

But he can be quenched in us

“Do not quench the Spirit.” 1Ths 5:19 (NKJV)

As Christains we have to seek new fillings of his presence so we can have courage to preach to the Lost.

In Acts 4 Peter had Boldness because he was filled with the Holy Spirit but we seek after he being threatened the Disciples including including Peter had to seek a other filling with the Holy Spirit.

Acts 4 (NKJV)[17] But so that it spreads no further among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name."[31] And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

But is there other reasons why we seek the filling Holy Spirit

Yes it is important to seek the Filling of the Holy Spirit to fight temptation to over come sin in our lives ,and live a godly life but we also seek him for boldness.

Boldness so we won't be given to the spirit to fear .

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” 2Tim 1:7 (NKJV)

Being brave to speak the Gospel is powerful. For this Gospel which we preach about Jesus death on the cross for sinners, burial and Resurrection is the power of God.

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.””— Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

Rom 1 (NKJV)[16] For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.[17] For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Chapter 06 Why the Holy Spirit is Important when reading the Bible

Why is the Holy Spirit so important when we read the Bible?

1. **He is the one who inspired the writers of the scripture itself and could help us understand what he moved the writers to write.**

2Pet 1 (NKJV) [20] knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation,[21] for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

2. He is also is the one who could help us remember the scripture when we need them again or qoute them to a other individual.

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”John 14:26 (NKJV)

3. He is our teacher and is able to explain stuff to us when no one else can or open our senses to understand when someone is teaching truths of the word.

“These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.” 1Cor 2:13 (NKJV)

“But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him. 1Jn 2:27 (NKJV)

4. Jesus through him equips teachers to teach his word.

1Cor 12 (NKJV)[7] But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:[8] for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,[28] And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.

“And He Himself (Jesus) gave some to be Apostles, prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,”Eph 4:11

(NKJV)

Rom 12 (NKJV)[6] Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;[7] or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;

5. He convicts us of sin as we read his word.

“And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:”John 16:8 (NKJV)

6. He consoles us though the word

“Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.” Acts 9:31 (NKJV)

7. He helps us live the word we read by producing his fruitful life in us.

Gal 5 (NKJV) [22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,[23] gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

8. He prays for us and there is no doubt that his prayers for us is to be able to live according to God's word and grace.

Rom 8 (NKJV) [26] Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.[27] Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

There are more things that can be said about the Holy Spirit but he is a wonderful helper in reading the Bible.

Chapter 07 How can we have the Holy Spirit

How can we have the Holy Spirit?

By faith in what Jesus done on the cross for our sins and not in the law of Moses for salvation or righteousness before God.

Gal 3:2-5 esv Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Did you suffer so many things in vain--if indeed it was in vain? Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith-

By obedience to Jesus of what he demands us to do.

Act 5:32 esv And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

By the laying of hands with prayer

Act 8:14-17 esv Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Chapter 08. Can I recieve the Holy Spirit without laying of hands

Can one receive the Holy Spirit without the laying of hands by another?

Yes we see this when Peter preached to Cornelius household

Acts 10 (NKJV) [44] While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.[45] And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

Chapter 09 Did Jesus know anything about the Holy Spirit

Did Jesus Christ know anything about the Holy Spirit?

Jesus was born through the miracle of the Holy Spirit.

“But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.” Mat 1:20 (NKJV)

The Holy Spirit was on Jesus in sevenfold

Isa 11:2-3 LXXE 2 and the Spirit of God shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and godliness shall fill him; 3 the spirit of the fear of God. He shall not judge according to appearance, nor reprove according to report:

The Holy Spirit came upon him as form of a dove at his baptism to reveal to John Jesus was the Messiah

“When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.” Mat 3:16 (NKJV)

“I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'” John 1:33 (NKJV)

The Holy Spirit led him to be tempted by the Devil for 40 days

“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.”Mat 4:1 (NKJV)

Jesus was sent by the Father and the Holy Spirit

“"Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; From the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord God and His Spirit Have sent Me.""— Isa 48:16 (NKJV)

Jesus warn his enemies not to blasphemy against the Holy Spirit

“"Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.” Mat 12:31 (NKJV)

Jesus cast out demons by the Power of the Holy Spirit

“But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.”— Mat 12:28 (NKJV)

Jesus said if one would believe in him one would receive the Holy Spirit

John 7 (NKJV)[37] On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.[38] He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."[39] But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified**.**

Jesus prayed to Father for the disciples to recieve the Holy Spirit and said that he would be with them forever

“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-–”John 14:16 (NKJV)

Jesus breathed on his disciples the Holy Spirit

“And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.”— John 20:22 (NKJV)

Jesus told the disciples of the power to be wittnesses they was to recieve when the Holy Spirit would come upon them

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." — Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

Jesus knew and the knows the Holy Spirit more than you and I could ever know him in this life because as God the Son

before dwelling in human flesh dwelt in heaven with the Father and the Holy Spirit before and in the beginning of creation

“And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.” John 17:5 (NKJV)

Gen 1 (NKJV)[1] In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.[2] The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Chapter 10.....Where can I see the Holy Spirit's person and Godhood in the New Testament

Let's look at a couple passages to show Holy Spirit is a person and God.

What did Jesus say about him shows Holy Spirit to be a person?

John 14:16-17 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

Only a person can replace a other person and in the above passage the Holy Spirit is call a other helper. If Jesus was a person the Holy Spirit had to be a person.

In the book of Acts we see that if one lies to the Holy Spirit one lies to God

Acts 5:3-4 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back [part] of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

We can't lie to a active force ,we can only lie to a person , and notice lieing to the Holy Spirit is lieing to God.

The Holy Spirit can be grieved as one can be grieve a other person

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

As a person he can also rejoice

Luke 10:21 In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from [the] wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.

Prophecies in the Old Testament that is spoken about God it states in the New Testament it was the Holy Spirit, showing him to be God.

Acts 28:25-27 So when they did not agree among themselves, they departed after Paul had said one word: "The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, saying,] [' Go to this people and say:] [" Hearing you will hear, and shall not understand;] [And seeing you will see, and not perceive;] [ ] [For the hearts of this people have grown dull.] [Their ears are hard of hearing,] [And their eyes they have closed,] [Lest they should see with] [their] [eyes and hear with] [their] [ears,] [Lest they should understand with] [their] [hearts and turn,] [So that I should heal them."']

Compare to

Isaiah 6:8-10 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: " Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here [am] I! Send me." And He said, "Go, and tell this people: ' Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.' " Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed."

Even in the passages where the Holy Spirit is not viewed as a person one can see his personality and godhood for example : pouring or filling

Let's look at the verses to explain them and compare

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:17 [' And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,] [That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh;] [Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,] [Your young men shall see visions,] [Your old men shall dream dreams.]

The Holy Spirit as God can fill all things including humans, look at what God tells Jeremiah .

Jeremiah 23:24 Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; " Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD.

Now in many places we humans are told to be pour out or to pour out our heart before the Lord this a expression

Psalms 22:14 I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.

Job 30:16 "And now my soul is poured out because of my [plight;] The days of affliction take hold of me.

Philippians 2:17 Yes, and if I am being poured out [as a drink offering] on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

So even in the passages which seem the Holy Spirit unlikely to be human and God the Holy Spirit is seen clearly to be both.

But let's not stop there as a person the Holy Spirit intercedes for us

Romans 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit [is,] because He makes intercession for the saints according to [the will of] God.

As a person the Holy Spirit has a will

1 Corinthians 12:7-11 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit [of all:] for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another [different] kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

According to that will he gives his gifts as we see above

The Holy Spirit as a person has a mind

Romans 8:27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit [is,] because He makes intercession for the saints according to [the will of] God.

The Holy Spirit as a person can love

Romans 15:30 Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me,

The Holy Spirit as a person and God can be blaspheme against

Matthew 12:31-32 "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy [against] the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the [age] to come.

You can only blaspheme a person and God which shows the Holy Spirit to be both.

The Holy Spirit is the Lord of the Harvest we as christians are told to pray to him so he can send out workers

Matthew 9:37-38 Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly [is] plentiful, but the laborers [are] few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

When this passage is compared to Acts one sees that clearly

Acts 13:2-4 As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent [them] away. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

Notice above The Holy Spirit said separate for me , not the Father or the Son but the Holy Spirit , and also notice being sent out by the Holy Spirit.

And as a person he can also forbid his workers to go to certain places which we see him do .

Acts 16:6-7 Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.

As a person he could teach us

John 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

As a person he could also lead us

Matthew 4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

These are just some of the reasons to believe according to the New Testament the Holy Spirit is a person and God.

Chapter 11..Did Moses experience the Holy Spirit as the Apostles experience them in Pentecost ?

He did receive the Holy Spirit at that time for we read he had him (the Holy Spirit) which God latter on took from Moses and gave it to the 70 elders

“And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him (Moses) , and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.”— Numbers 11:25 (KJV)

Chapter 12 Slain in the Spirit

Slain in the Spirit

There are certain vocabulary used by certain Christians now in days that are misunderstood and one of these phrases is Slain in the Spirit. What comes into mind, when one hears the phrase "Slain in the Spirit" but "some one who is killed by the (Holy)Spirit." If that is the case we can think of two individuals , a couple in Acts 5 who was slain in the Spirit. Ananias and his wife Sapphira who lied to the Holy Spirit and was slain by the Spirit.

Act 5:3-5 NKJV But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.” Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last....

Act 5:9-10 NKJV Then Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.” Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband.

This surely is not ment when Christians use the phrase "Slain by the Spirit." We mean they fall back. If they fall back, are they falling back like Jesus enemies example of this could be seen in the gospel of John with those who came to arrest Jesus.

John 18:4-6 NKJV Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, “Whom are you seeking?” They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am He.” And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Now when He said to them, “I am He,” they drew back and fell to the ground.

The Answer to this no , this is not what it means to be slain in the spirit or to fall due to the Holy Spirit presence.

Now we have to be careful in understanding this , we have to look to the Bible as evidence for this. And the Bible gives us some examples of this. Instead of using the phrase "Slain in the Spirit" let me use the phrase "falling in the presence of the Holy Spirit".

Do we have examples of this , people falling in the presence of God ? Yes we do.

1) We can think of Daniel, Ezekiel and John who fell due to the presence of God.

Ezekiel

Ezekiel 1:28 NKJV Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. So when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking.

Daniel

Daniel 10:8-9 NKJV 8 Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength. 9 Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I

was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground.

John

Revelation 1:17 NKJV And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, “Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

2) We could also think of people in the Bible who had a demon and was delivered, set free from demon possession.

Mark 9:25-27 NKJV When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!” Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

When I got saved , I started reading books that attacked this event till one day I had a church service in my house. There was about 28 kids of different ages. And as I was praying for each one of them I had a vision of a cloud that covered the whole house. And as I prayed for each kid they all fell to the ground. And I was saying to myself how could that be I don't believe in this. I can't even find it biblically. But it is happening before my eyes. When the kids rose from the ground they all claimed to see a vision of an angel. And the cloud that covered the house.

Now I understand that the devil also imitates the things of God.

2Corinthians 11:14 NKJV And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

Certain demons causes people to fall in the ground aswell. I know in some cases of ministers so called but not of God that they sold their soul to the devil to be able to do this. And some fake ministers could do this through hypnosis , also there are others who forces people to fall while praying for them which is not a good thing to do. So be careful who lays hands on you to pray for you. And the people you pray for don't force them to fall to the floor unless God's Spirit does it without force.

Chapter 13 .....Why I reject Apostles for our Times

Things that need to be considered before taking the Title of Apostle.

1) The Apostles where the foundation of the church with the Old Testament prophets and one does not build a foundation on top of other foundation it doesn't make sense.

Eph 2:20 VW having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone,

2) To be a Apostles one has to have seen the Lord Jesus.

1Co 9:1 VW Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord?....

Has any of these seen Jesus.

3) The devil has set in churches many that seeks to be called apostles and where found to be liers?

2Co 11:13 VW For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

Rev 2:2 VW.... And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them to be liars;

Why not these aswell. How do we know if they are not being decieved.

4) As the foundation of the church the Apostles had authority to write scripture. Then if there are still apostles then the scripture is not complete. If there's still more books to be written then when will Bible ever be completed? And if there are still more books to be written, when will Jesus come because of the Bible is not being finish? When can we say the final word is exist?

5) I recently called a person by that title knowing full well that title is off limits , that day I felt like I had a bad taste in my mouth which didn't went away till I told the Lord forgive me. I will not again entertain such foolishness.

Chapter 14...Gift of Healings

If there is ever a topic among the churches that needs at times to be addressed is the topic of the Gifts of Healings. Like what is a healing in comparison to a miracle? Miracle has to do with the change of the elements of nature while healing has to do with change of ones health. Some churches deny that God still could use his servants as a instrument to heal a other while others state if you are not healed you are lacking faith and with that God wants all his children healed.
Examples of both views we can see in the following which are wrong :

Miracles, Healings and Tongues September 6 , 1972
John Macarthur stated " Now, there are four of these gifts listed in the New Testament: miracles, healing, tongues, and the interpretation tongues – or better, languages and the translation of languages. That's the exact Greek rendering. Now, they have no continuing role in the body we believe from Scripture, as we shall see, but existed for the apostolic era, designed to confirm the Word before the New Testament canon was complete and specifically while God was still directly doing signs in the face of Israel. "

T. D. Jakes, The Potters House, TBN, 2/23/2004.
T.D .Jakes stated "The devil is a liar. Healing is the children's bread. It's promised to us in the word of God…God can do things that medicine cannot do."

I remember a pastor from a church called Tabernacle of Love telling me when my wife was dieing of cancer that she would of been well if I didn't lack faith , that I was the reason why my wife was still with cancer. This also happened in one occasion when my grandma was dieing of cancer she was told by a lady from her pentecostal church she wasn't healed because she lacked faith. For God to perform a healing ones faith is not needed. These churches sees miracles and healings as a product of man and not God. Ultimately God is not sovereign in their minds but man is . Be honest with you I prayed for people who I thought would never be healed and they were healed like a man with AIDS who after the prayer brought me a documented report that he was Healed with no signs of it. and I prayed for people who I believe with all my heart was to be healed and they died a few days later. God is sovereign not us.

Many years ago I was in a church service and the Lord was showing me a lady who was in a wheelchair and had no legs moreover in the vision saw myself praying for her and I saw her with legs walking. The name of the church was called El Refugio at the time. So in the middle of the service I pray for her. But nothing happened. I prayed for her to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. She received the Holy Spirit. But I prayed for her to receive legs till I couldn't speak anymore. And nothing happened. Then I said to her receive your legs by faith. I was greatly disappointed. After 3 days she came to the church walking. And she had received her legs but it wasn't like I imagine they were wooden legs and not of flesh. Finally she was approved by her medicare card to receive her wooden legs by mail. She was seeking approval for more than 2 years when I prayed for her the Lord open that door. The prayer was answered but not the way I wanted it. Sometimes healing can come not by the ways we imagine.

How much faith did Lazarus exhibit to be raised from the dead or how much faith did Jarius daughter exhibited? None for both them was dead.

Before we continue I would like to address a Question. Is it God's will to heal everyone? No it is not. There was even a occasion where Jesus only healed one person from a multitude who needed to be healed in John 5.

John 5:1-9 After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk."And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath.

Elisha died of a illness
2 Kings 13:14 Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!"

Did that illness mean he wasn't anointed or he lacked faith ? No for we see that even after he had died his anointing was so strong it raised the dead to life.

2 Kings 13:20-21 Then Elisha died, and they buried him. And the raiding bands from Moab invaded the land in the spring of the year. So it was, as they were burying a man, that suddenly they spied a band of raiders; and they put the man in the tomb of Elisha; and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.

Just because you are sick doesn't mean you can't be used by God to pray for a sick person and see that person healed. The power of the anointing doesn't come from you but God The Holy Spirit who dwells in you.

Timothy had a stomach illness , and was told by Paul to drink wine with water because of that illness.

1 Timothy 5:23]No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities.

There are some occasions where God would have us use medical means for our Healings as we see in the case of Hezekiah.

Isaiah 38:4-5,21
And the word of the Lord came to Isaiah, saying, "Go and tell Hezekiah, 'Thus says the Lord, the God of David your father: "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will add to your days fifteen years.Now Isaiah had said, "Let them take a lump of figs, and apply it as a poultice on the boil, and he shall recover."

It is not a sin to see a doctor but it is a sin not to seek God first in prayer who gave wisdom to the doctor.

2 Chronicles 16:12 And in the thirty-ninth year of his reign, Asa became diseased in his feet, and his malady was severe; yet in his disease he did not seek the Lord, but the physicians.

And we see Luke who stood a physician even after he saw the gifts of healings clearly played out before his eyes.
Colossians 4:14 Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you.

Paul had a illness which he wasn't healed from. He even prayed to God to get rid of it.

2 Corinthians 12:7-9
And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure.Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Some say it was problems with his eye sight. Which we are hinted at in his Epistle to the Galatians.

Galatians 4:13
You know that because of physical infirmity I preached the gospel to you at the first.

Galatians 4:15 What then was the blessing you enjoyed? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes and given them to me.

Galatians 6:11 See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand!

So if God's will was to heal everyone Paul would of been healed , Timothy would of been healed , Luke would of not stood as a physician.
Now was the Gifts of Healings a gift that was to leave the church after the apostolic age? And the Answer is No. We read the following in Mark 16:17-18

Mark 16:17-18
And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;
they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Notice : “And these signs will follow those who believe “

Are there still believers in our time yes there are. But some might state oh this passage doesn’t belong in the Gospel of Mark but was added much later. They say that because it is missing in Codex Vaticanus and Codex Sinaiticus but nearly all other manuscripts have them. Which by the way includes

EVIDENCE: A C 2 D(supp) K ,W ,X ,Theta, Pi, f 1, f 13, 28, 33 ,565 ,700, 892, 1010, 1241, Byz, Lect, most lat vg , syr(c,p,h,pal)

Now in that sermon by John Macarthur which he preached he mocks us who believes in these verses for us now by stating:

“Now, if today we are to assume that anyone still has all of this that is meant for then, then we must find ourselves agreeing with the Appalachian snake handlers and with those who would perhaps from the Church of the Firstborn, it’s called, drink poison and so forth and so on. It doesn’t work like they want it to work very often. “

As Christians we don’t put God to the test. Or tempt him as other translation states.
Matthew 4:6-7

Matthew 4:6-7
English Standard Version
6 and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, “‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and “‘On their hands they will bear you up,lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”
Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Matthew 16:1
Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven.

But if the situation was to arrive where a snake would bite us, not us looking for it , as to put God in the test for it , or if we was to drink poison unaware we believe God would protect us just as he did for Paul.

Acts 28:3-6
But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand. So when the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, “No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow to live.” But he shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. However, they were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had looked for a long time and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.
Did Paul seek to get bitten by a snake? No but when it happen God protected him , just like Mark said God would.

Now many of the early church Fathers who lived after the Apostolic age believe in the Spiritual gifts for their time. Except for a few. Here is a taste of those who did. Notice the date which they lived in , Clearly after the last Apostle had already been dead who was John the Beloved who lived till 100AD.

JUSTIN MARTYR (100-165 AD) Justin’s Dialogue with Trypho chapter 82 states “For the prophetical gifts remain with us, even to the present time.”
And in chapter 88 states “Now, it is possible to see among us women and men who possess gifts of the Spirit of God.”

IRENAEUS (130-202 AD) in Against Heresies 5:6:1 states (” In like manner we do hear many brethren in the Church who possess prophetic gifts, and who through the Spirit speak all kinds of languages, and bring to light for the general benefit the hidden things of men, and declare the mysteries of God, “)

Martin Luther the Reformer (1483-1546) in his sermon on Mark 16: 17-18 states That the Christian in general has the power to exhibit these signs when the need arises.

(” How shall we proceed here that we may preserve the truth of this passage? The Lord says all these signs shall accompany them. Now we know that the apostles did not present all the signs, and if the passage shall stand literally, then few believers will

be cleared and few saints be entitled to heaven; for these signs, one and all, have not accompanied them, though they have had power to work signs, and have exhibited some of them. These words, therefore, do not refer to the Church as a whole, but to persons separately. If there is a Christian who has faith, he shall have power to do these accompanying miracles, and they shall follow him. Christ says, "He that believeth on me, the works that I shall do, shall he do also." The Lord has given Christians power also against the unclean spirits. There was once a patriarch in the wilderness, who, when he met a serpent, took it in both hands and tore it in two, saying, What a fine thing it is to have a clear and guiltless conscience. So, where there is a Christian, there is still the power to work these signs if it is necessary. But no one should attempt to exercise this power if it is not necessary. The apostles did not always exercise it, but only made use of it to prove the Word of God, to confirm it by miracles. "They went forth and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the Word with signs following." Since the gospel has now been spread abroad, and made known to all the world, there is no need of working miracles as in the apostles' time. Then let no one without pressing need undertake to work wonders. I know not what I shall say about those who venture to do signs where they are not necessary…….)

This is important because here we have a reformer from about 500 years ago stating that healings , speaking of tongues are possible for today if the needs arises. I may disagree with him on some points but I agree with him that the gifts of the spirit is available to the Christian when the needs arises. Which brothers and sisters the needs has arisen to show the true Gospel of God from the Apostasy that surrounds us today. So God has made them available for you and me.
We are told in scripture when the gifts of the Spirit will cease to exist and that is at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and not before. He is that which is perfect and we will be made perfect on that day.

1 Corinthians 13:8-10
Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.
Now it is important to note how the gifts of healings was done so let's read the passage again in Mark 16: 17-18:

Mark 16:17-18
And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;
they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Notice that we are told how to cast out Demons in comparison to how healing works. We are to lay hands on the sick but not on those who are possess with a demon. And we don't read to anoint the demon possessed person. Only the sick person can be anointed with oil and laid hands upon as we see in James.

James 5:14-15 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.
We are told in scripture to be careful who we lay hands upon.

1 Timothy 5:22 Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure.
What does it mean when Isaiah states Jesus took our infirmities, does it mean our sickness or our sins? And the answer is both when taken in context. But we see clearly in Matthew It is used in the time frame of Jesus earthly Ministry.

What does it mean when Isaiah states Jesus took our infirmities, does it mean our sickness or our sins? And the answer is both when taken in context. But we see clearly in Matthew It is used in the time frame of Jesus earthly Ministry.

Isaiah 53:4-5 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

Matthew 8:16-17
When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses."

Peter uses Isaiah 53 it to refer to our sins

(1 Peter 2:24-25) who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes you were healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd

and Overseer of your souls. (NKJV)

Chapter 15 .Gift of Tongues

In the time we are living there is lots of confusion about the gift of tongues. Some say it is the evidence of Salvation or being filled with the Spirit and every true Christian should be able to speak in tongues. There are some churches that even teaches how to speak in tongues.

The University of Speaking in Tongues , Steven Jonathan University is a example of such ignorance.

The gift of tongues is a gift and a gift is not something to be learned. Otherwise is not the Spirit doing it but your own flesh doing it. The Bible says differently from those opinions, not every born again Christian is to have the gift of tongues. Just like there are not those who in the church which have all gifts. In the church not everyone speak in tongues is clear from 1 Corinthians 12.

1 Corinthians 14:5
I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.

Imagine for a second church members with all the gifts how will they be useful to the other members of the body of Christ. Could you imagine them saying to each other. Don't give to me because I have the gift of giving. I give to myself daily. Don't prophesy to me because I've already prophesied to myself. We are called the body of Christ and each one of us has different functions. No Christian is the whole body in themselves but a part of the body which is called to be a blessing on a other parts.

It is sad to say there are Pentecostal assemblies of churches who are Anti Biblical on the matter instead of consulting the Bible they go by the opinion of men with no Real biblical bases on this issue, Assembly of God for example to them you are not really filled with the spirit if you don't speak in tongues:

FAQ: SPEAKING IN TONGUES
by AG NEWS on May 9, 2019 (" There are those who give testimony to a dynamic and life-changing encounter with the Holy Spirit who have never spoken in tongues. Nevertheless it cannot be said that they are filled with the Spirit in the New Testament sense of the term. There is an essential link between that experience and speaking in other tongues, as pointed out above.")

Which in my opinion they are lacking Biblical Bases on the matter, logic and twisting passages of scripture without looking at the context of the passage. Verses before and after. And the whole over all scripture on the matter.
I know many Christians who love and served the Lord and are filled with the Spirit who don't speak in tongues. The evidence of being filled with the Spirit is not the speaking in tongues but the work of the Holy Spirit in the person's life being shown by the fruit of the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.
Jesus said by their fruits you shall know them not by if they speak in tongues.

Matthew 7:20
Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

For there are those in Santeria , Wicca , Voodoo and Satanism that speaks in tongues. If I go by the opinion of the Assembly of God , I would have to include them as being filled with the Holy Spirit. That is one of the reasons the Assemblies of God don't ordain a pastor who doesn't speak in tongues because they think they are not filled with the Holy Spirit.

Now a other question comes into mind what kinds of tongues are there. Are tongues a prayer language or a national native language?
The Bible speaks of two different kinds of tongues one of men and the other one of angels. 1 Corinthians 13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. The one of angels is in reference to a prayer tongue this gift of tongues is the most seen in our time.

1 Corinthians 14:14-15
For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

The other is speaking in a foreign language this was done in the day of Pentecost. Where those Jews who was raised and born in other nations heard the Apostles and those who was worshipping speak in the tongue of their native nation.

Acts 2:7-11
Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.

This gift is rarely seen in our time. Which revival of the gifts of tongues started in the 1830's and in 1906 Azusa St revival which was led by William Joseph Seymour which in many respects bought a bigger publication of the gift of tongues in our times. Even though there where a few cases before that the gift of tongues where heard. Many took those gifts of tongues to see if it would work in other nations so the Gospel could be preached and was greatly disappointed.

S. C. Todd of the Bible Missionary Society investigated eighteen Pentecostals who went to Japan, China, and India expecting to preach to the natives in those countries in their own tongue, and found that by their own admission in no single instance have [they] been able to do so. As these and other missionaries returned in disappointment and failure, Pentecostals were compelled to rethink their original view of speaking in tongues. (Robert M. Anderson, Vision of the Disinherited, 90-91)

So the gift of tongues that is used now is more of a prayer language than other nations native language. It was needed back to start the foundation of the church but it is not needed in our time that is why the Lord has not permitted to be in our time .
But the gift of tongues comes in both forms a prayer language and being able to speak in a other people's native language.
Now should the gift of tongues be used in our churches and the answer is yes and no. It has it's place and time.The Bible tells us that it needs to be interpreted in the church service.

1 Corinthians 14:27-30
If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God. Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent.

What happens if that is a prayer service among believers and not a regular service? I wouldn't mind them to speak in tongues and I think prohibiting those who do is quenching the spirit. But then that is my own opinion and I don't have no Biblical Bases for it except my own opinion on the matter.
Now can a person who speak in tongues also interpret his own tongue ? And the answer is yes, if that gift is also given to them.

1 Corinthians 14:13
Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.

Paul is very clear on that.